GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3997
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2016
Guidelines for Accepting Gifts
Meena Shri Arjunlal

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain guidelines have been prescribed regarding accepting gifts from other countries by the Very Important Persons (VIPs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the gifts accepted by these VIPs become their personal property;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the year-wise and country-wise details of the gifts received by VIPs during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

(a) & (b) The gifts accepted by Very Important Persons during their foreign visits are governed by Foreign Contribution (Acceptance or Retention of Gifts or Presentations) Rules, 2012 as amended from time to time.

(c) & (d) In accordance with Rules, the gift received from foreign sources are deposited in Toshakhana for evaluation by Customs Appraiser to assess their market value. Recipient is informed about the assessed market value of the gift by Toshakhana. If the value is less than Rs.5000, the gift is offered to the recipient for retention. If the value is more than Rs.5000, the recipient is offered the option to purchase the gift on payment of the difference between the market value and Rs.5000.
(e) The year-wise and country-wise details of gifts received by VIPs during the last three years is enclosed at Annexure.